

## **SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 28**

WHEREAS, Missourians spent approximately \$30 billion on health care last year; and

WHEREAS, this spending represents 16% of the gross state product; and

WHEREAS, prescription drugs were 12.8% of health care spending; and

WHEREAS, pharmacy costs were 30.9% of Medicaid general revenue; and

WHEREAS, the average cost per prescription for seniors rose by 48% between 1992 and 2000 and is expected to rise another 72% by 2010; and

WHEREAS, 22% of seniors skip doses or allow prescriptions to go unfilled because of the high costs; and

WHEREAS, consumers pay 30% to 50% less for the same drugs in Canada; and

WHEREAS, in 2001, pharmaceutical companies imported \$14.7 billion of drugs for consumption in the United States; and

WHEREAS, we live in a global economy and should have access to goods produced by trade partners; and

WHEREAS, access to Canadian pharmaceuticals could save Missouri consumers and the state of Missouri millions of dollars; and

WHEREAS, the importation of Canadian pharmaceuticals is currently prohibited by the federal Food and Drug Administration:

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the members of the Missouri Senate, Ninety-Second General Assembly, Second Regular Session, the House of Representatives concurring therein, hereby urge the President of the United States to order the Food and Drug Administration to lift the ban on Canadian pharmaceuticals; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Missouri Senate be instructed to prepare properly inscribed copies of this resolution for the President of the United States and Missouri's Congressional delegation.